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finally will the Hon. Minister agree with me when I say that our Madras Government are definitely against the formation of Dakshina Pradesh by integrating Madras with any other State in the South?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It is open to the hon. Member to draw his own conclusions. As I have already stated, the Government have not considered this question and they have no opinion to place before the House at this stage. When the time arises, certainly they will give their views.

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : May I know what the suggestion of this Government was in that conference?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The Government as such did not participate in the talks there; we participated as individuals. As I have already stated, the discussions were of a general nature.

SRI M. PALANIYANDI : நமது பிரதம மந்திரியிடம் சாதாரண முறையில்தான் பேச்சுவார்த்தை நடத்தியதாக கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனாலும்கூட இன்றைக்கு இது சம்பந்தமாக முன்னாள் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஸ்ரீ சுப்பிரமணியம் அவர்களைத் தூக்கிப் பேசுவதும், முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்களைத் தாழ்த்திப் பேசுவதும் ஆக மக்கள் பலவிதமான குழப்பத்திற்கு உள்ளாகிறார்கள். இவற்றுக்கு எல்லாம் முடிவு கட்ட சீக்கிரமே இப்பிரச்சினையில் ஒரு முடிவு எடுக்கப்படுமா ?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : கட்டாயம் இதில் சீக்கிரம் ஒரு முடிவு எடுக்கப்படும். அந்த முடிவை எடுப்பதற்கு கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களும் உதவி செய்வார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

SRI S. RAMALINGAM : தட்சிணப் பிரதேச அமைப்பை முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் எதிர்ப்பதாகவும், நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஆதரிப்பதாகவும் நாங்கள் கொள்ளலாமா ?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்கள், அவர்கள் இஷ்டம் போல் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம்.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Is it a fact that the Madras Government have still got an open mind to discuss the pros and cons of Dakshina Pradesh and, if so, will they come to a decision?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : For the Government to consider, the proposal should come officially. No such proposal has come before the Government officially. Therefore the question does not arise at all.

Short Notice Question.

Communal tension in Pattambi

* 45 *Q*.—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN (on behalf of Sri K. C. Gopalan Unni) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any information regarding the communal tension prevailing in the Pattambi firka, Walluvanad taluk, Malabar district; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken by the Government to restore normal relationship between the communities?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) The Government have received from the Collector of Malabar and the Inspector-General

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of Police, reports which go to show that for some time past the relationship between the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh workers of Pattambi and some Muslims of that area has been strained. A case in which Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh workers had beaten a few Muslims at Kanayam and two other cases in which Muslims had beaten Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh workers have been reported. One of these cases is *sub judice* and the rest which are under investigation might become *sub judice* before long. I should therefore decline to say anything further in the matter now. I may, however, add that these are stray incidents and there is nothing to show that there is communal tension in the firka.

(*b*) The District Superintendent of Police and the Deputy Superintendent of Police have visited the spot and sections of Armed Reserve have been stationed at Pattambi and Vallapuzha. Policemen are patrolling the villages in the area. It is hoped that these measures will be adequate to prevent further incidents.

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : The Hon. Minister said that these were only stray incidents. There was tension in the same firka about a year ago and therefore these cannot be considered as stray incidents. Will the Government take steps to prohibit the sword and similar practices by the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh workers as well as the Muslim Rashtriya Swayam Sangh workers and will the Government be pleased to constitute peace preservation and committees composed of members of all communities and of all political parties and take their help if they are constituted?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : We cannot prohibit what is lawful under the existing law. Persons are entitled to practice physical exercises and even sword plays provided it is not illegal. The question of prohibiting any activity will not arise unless it is illegal.

With regard to the formation of peace committees, I thought peace fronts either internally or internationally was the exclusive preserve of the Communist Party.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Have the Government received any report from the Police or from any other reliable source that it is only after the camp of Mr. Golwalker in the Pattambi firka that tension has increased and, if so, have the Government made any official arrangements to watch the developments?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Yes, Sir. The situation is being watched. There is patrolling of villages by the Police. I do not think the situation is in any way serious. As I have already stated these are only stray incidents, and the Government hope that no further deterioration will occur.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Are the Government aware of the fact that Messrs. V. Krishna Sarma, R. K. Ramachandran and C. Gopalan, workers of Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh, were attacked in a dastardly manner by the Muslims of the area?

There is an impression gaining ground in that place that the Police officials, being Muslims, are abetting this kind of disturbance. Will the Government take care to transfer these officers and post in their places not Hindus but at least Christian officers who may be above board so far as this situation is concerned?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am sorry that the hon. Member is thinking in terms of Muslims or Hindu officers and that the officers are likely to take a partisan attitude. It is not so. We want to give protection to all officers. To whatever community they might belong, we want that they should keep a strict watch over the situation and adopt an impartial attitude. If anybody misbehaves by taking sides with communal organizations, they will be properly dealt with and disciplinary action will be taken. Therefore I would appeal to the hon. Member not to speak in terms of communities, particularly about the police service.

DR. K. B. MENON: Will the Government keep politics out of the situation and not be satisfied with issuing strict instructions to the police as the Government seems to have done?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: That is the intention of the Government. But unfortunately politics come into play wherever there is trouble and politicians try to take advantage of that.

10 a.m. SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, is it a fact that one of the two or three persons who are victims of the recent attack complained to the police that they were threatened and that the police took no action till the incident actually occurred?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sir, it is easy to say that they were threatened. But for the police to take action, there should be positive proof. Of course there might have been complaints, and I am sure they would have enquired about them. But unfortunately these incidents happen and then only we become wise. We did not know whether it was a mere threat or the threat was intended to be carried out. But I may assure the hon. Member that the Government are aware of the situation and the police have been given strict instructions to keep a watch over the situation.

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE: Sir, is it not a fact that the District Superintendent of Police in Malabar is a Hindu, the Deputy Superintendent of Police who exercised the police powers in the area is a Christian, and the Sub-Inspector of Police of the area is a Hindu? Are not the alleged charges against these officials that they are partial baseless? Is it not a fact that an organization like the one mentioned by Sri P. K. Gopalakrishnan (Muslim R.S.S.) does not exist anywhere in our country?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am glad at the information which the hon. Member has been pleased to give. I would request the hon. Member not to take the question put by Sri Vinayakam seriously. He just wanted to make out a case that they

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were Muslim Officers. That is why he put that question. Anyhow, the community to which a police officer belongs has no relevancy. The question of community to which a particular officer belongs will not be allowed to influence the action which he has got to take as an officer.

Sri S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : Sir, human nature being what it is it is natural that the people in the affected area may apprehend that they may not get justice from officers who do not belong to their own community. Therefore, whenever there is a likelihood of this kind of misunderstanding, would the Government see that such officers are transferred to some other place and new officers posted irrespective of communities?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : This will be a dangerous suggestion to be adopted by the Government. After all we expect every police official to whatever community he might belong, to act as a police official and not take any partisan attitude. If he takes that attitude, I may assure hon. Members that severe action will be taken against him.

Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Sir, the Communist party never claim that they alone stand for peace both internally and internationally. The Hon. Minister's reply regarding Peace Preservation Committees only belittles the importance of people's co-operation and people's Committees. Will the Government change their attitude towards the people and their committees and form committees so that peace may be maintained in such troubled areas?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : We do appreciate the co-operation of the people and the people's Front. But when a particular party claims that it alone represents the people and it alone forms the people's front ,then the difficulty arises. I do agree that all are interested in maintaining peace. But the difficulty arises only when a particular party goes about beating the drum that it alone is interested in preserving the peace. As far as the co-operation of the people is concerned, I am sure this Government will take the co-operation of all the people concerned and not only that of the particular party or community in a particular area.

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : From the reports and the copies of the petitions that have been submitted to the Government by both the parties (R.S.S. and Muslim R.S.S.), it is seen that it is not at all a stray attack that was made on 12th February 1956 on Muslims at Kanyam, in which five Muslims were injured and taken to the hospital. It was after 27th February 1956 some R.S.S. people attacked some Muslims at Vallapuzra as alleged by the Muslims. Some R.S.S. people are also admitted in the hospital. From the petition that has been submitted to the Government by the parties, it is seen that people are feeling panicky and they have no feeling of security. In the light of these facts, will the Hon. the Chief Minister or the Hon. the Finance Minister tour the area

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along with some of the people's leaders there including Congressmen and those who stand for peace and see that people are given a sense of security and confidence?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, let us not increase the panic by the sort of questions which we put here and the representations we make here. All necessary precautions have been taken, and the report we have received is that there is no panic there and that the police are taking strict action and the situation is under control.

SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR : Sir, I also wanted to request the Hon. Minister to tour that area. There is the feeling that the police have not tackled the situation properly. So I would request the Minister to tour that area.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The question of touring that area is quite a different thing. I am prepared or the Chief Minister is prepared to undertake a tour if it is necessary in a particular area. I may assure the hon. Member and also other hon. Members of the House that the police are keeping watch over the situation. The reports available with the Government show that they have got control over the situation and that the situation is not likely to deteriorate.

SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR : I would like to give the information to the Hon. Minister that these are not isolated incidents. For the last one year there have been very many such incidents in this place.

SRI K. T. SREEDHARAN : Is it not a fact that the Police Sub-Inspector of the area is a Muslim?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That might be so. That is not at all relevant to the consideration of the situation there. There are Hindu Officers, there are Muslim Officers and there are also Christian Officers. The community of the officers is not a matter to be taken into consideration.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, I rise on a point of personal explanation. I am very sorry about the statement made by the Hon. Minister Sri C. Subramaniam here. He takes very lightly all the questions. I am very serious when I put questions. It is not as if I am trying to fish in troubled waters. The Hon. Minister in replying to the question of Mr. Shafee made a reference to me. Is it not a fact that the information supplied by Mr. Shafee is incorrect in that the Circle Inspector of the area is not a Hindu but a Muslim? It does not matter to which community the District Superintendent of Police belongs. In view of the serious complaints which have been brought to the notice of the Government and which have been given to the Members of the Legislative Assembly, will the Government take serious notice, enquire into the complaints and thus maintain law and order in the area?

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM : Sir, I rise on a point of order. This is not the first time that the hon. Member Sri Vinayakam says

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that he is always serious in putting questions and that the Leader of the House is always light-hearted in his reply. Has he got this privilege to say so?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sri Vinayakam first gave the impression that all the officers were Muslims. But now he himself has said that the Circle Inspector of Police is a Muslim. It might be so. Simply because there is a Muslim Officer, it does not mean that he is taking a partisan attitude. As I have already stated I am not prepared to grant that simply because the District Superintendent of Police happens to be a Hindu he is taking sides with Hindus and that simply because the Inspector of Police happens to be a Muslim he is taking sides with Muslims. The Police will have to be treated as an integrated service. I would request hon. Members not to go into the question of communal feelings of Police officers, which is likely to deteriorate the position much further. I would request hon. Members not to go into these questions. If there are any further steps which the Government have to take, certainly they will consider them and they will take the necessary steps.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : In the answer given by the Hon. the Minister for Finance to my supplementary question, it was suggested that questions put here will tend to create panic among the people. May I make it clear that it is not my intention to create panic and that the subject-matter of my questions was based on written representations which both the parties have made to the Government—and copies of the same are with me now—based on the facts stated in those written representations, I have put my supplementary questions. Apart from that, may I also bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that the Communist Party has published a leaflet wherein is stated that the people should have no truck with the communalists whether they are Muslims or Hindus and that they should co-operate with the Police to maintain law and order. I will read portions of the leaflet : 10-10 a.m.

"നാട്ടിൽ വർഗ്ഗീയലഹളയും കലാപങ്ങളും വരുത്തുന്ന കുബുദ്ധികളെ കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചു നാട്ടിൽ നിയമവും സമാധാനവും പാലിക്കുന്നതിനു പോലീസുമായി സഹകരിച്ചു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുകയും വേണം, ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഉത്സാഹപൂർവ്വം പ്രവൃത്തിക്കാൻ ഞങ്ങൾ നാട്ടുകാരോടഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു".

That is our stand. It is not our intention to create panic. I would request the Hon. Minister to undertake a tour of that area to create some confidence and a feeling of security among the people in which all Members of the House irrespective of party politics are interested. I hope the Malayalee Members will co-operate with the Hon. Minister in this matter and do everything in their power to establish communal harmony in that area.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : With reference to the tour of Ministers in that area, certainly the representations made by hon. Members will be taken into consideration. But I may point out to Mr. Nambiar that there is no use of appealing for co-operation with the Police whenever it is convenient for him. When the Communist Party has set up traditions of defiance of law and order on very many occasions, this appeal on a particular occasion will

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not be taken seriously by the people. Therefore, persons who are always accustomed to keep law and order and co-operate with the Police should appeal to the people and that will have greater effect.

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP : Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that the Communist Party is so impartial in this matter that they published a leaflet charging certain sections of the people with commission of crime and that the High Court itself committed the Secretary of the Walluvanad Communist Party for contempt of court?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am glad for the information and I do not have the information, Sir.

Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : On behalf of the Communist Party I want to state that the Communist Party is never wedded to the principle of defiance of law and order. The Communist Party respects the Constitution and wants to work within the framework of the Constitution. But, there may be occasions when certain individuals had to break law and order and they are only exceptions and that the Government, therefore, shall not make defiance of law and order as a general principle adopted by the Communist Party.

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I hope this policy will be kept in mind and will be implemented also and whatever might have been in the past there will be a different story in the future.

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : On a point of personal explanation, Sir, Hon. Member Sri M. Narayana Kurup was quoting an instance in which the High Court convicted one of the Communist Party leaders for contempt of court. May I also draw the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that one of the P.S.P. leaders. . . . was involved . . . .

Mr. SPEAKER : When the hon. Member rises on a point of personal explanation, the personal explanation must relate to any matter concerning him and not other persons. Therefore, if hon. Member Sri M. Narayana Kurup has referred to anything relating to the hon. Member, he can then rise up on a matter of personal explanation.

Question time is over.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1956-57—*cont.*

(1) DEMAND VI—MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS ADMINISTRATION.

(2) DEMAND XXXIII—ROAD TRANSPORT SCHEMES—WORKING EXPENSES.

(3) DEMAND XLII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ROAD TRANSPORT SCHEMES.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister in charge of Religious Endowments and Transport will move Demands VI, XXXIII and XLII.